Promotion of economic block in South Asia

2014. DR. AKHILESH DAS:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the recent visit of Prime Minister to China any proposal for promotion of an economic bloc in South Asia through SAARC or otherwise was discussed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome of the discussion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) No. Sir

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Conversion of Jinnah house into a Cultural Centre

2015. SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mohammed Ali Jinnha's house at Malcha Hill in Mumbai is proposed to be turned into a Cultural Centre;

(b) if so, its salient features; and

(c) whether there is any provision for Studies in Common Heritage of the subcontinent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes Sir. The property, since renamed as ICCR Mumbai Branch Officer, will have facilities for cultural activities.

(b) The proposal is to have a small auditorium, library and reading room, seninar rooms, art gallery, etc. in the premises.

(c) There is no specific provision being considered at present in this regard.